

# Chinese Aids Quit Parley; Call It Futile

(Continued from page one)

China's demands in these particulars had been granted. That Japan had raised a serious obstacle to permitting China to increase her import duty from its present rate of 5 per cent to 12 1/2 per cent, which she considers essential for the proper maintenance of her government. That the agreement to settle the Shantung controversy outside of the armament conference was contrary to the wish of the Chinese people, who were opposed to any direct negotiations with Japan.

That Japan's open declaration of her intention to consider Manchuria henceforth as Japanese territory had been unchallenged by the conference, whereas the Chinese demands were that Manchuria as well as Shantung were to be restored to the map of "Historic China."

**Japanese Compliance Doubtful**  
By the official Chinese spokesman doubt was expressed that Japan ever would find it expedient to give up her postulates, located chiefly in Manchuria. He said that about 2,000 chests of opium yearly were distributed through the Japanese mail and that the drug entered Manchuria by way of Dairen because Chinese officials had no right to inspect mail bags in Japanese settlements. The result was, said the Chinese official, that the Japanese government received \$20,000,000 a year in this revenue. He said that while the traffic was carried widespread by peddlers, who, whether Chinese or Japanese, carried certificates that they were citizens of Formosa and are therefore free from molestation.

"What can be said of an 'agreement' which binds all the powers to investigate extrajudicially in China within a year and then fails to bind them to any of the results of the investigation?" said one of the Chinese advisers on quitting to-day. "The existence of foreign courts in our land is a constant irritant to the Chinese people. The conference 'agrees' to investigate. It puts final consideration of the question off for a year. And at the end of that year no foreign power is bound to anything. It is this kind of agreement which have impelled us to resign. We are resigning before the people of China come to the conclusion that their independence is to be permanently 'agreed' away from them."

**Wisdom of Revolt Questioned**  
To these complaints a high spokesman for the American delegation offered an emphatic rejoinder. He served notice that the Chinese who are criticizing China's progress at the conference were acting in a way inimical to China's cause.

Describing as "simply ignorant of the situation or without the interest of China at heart" those who contend that China is not being given all possible consideration, the American spokesman at a conference with newspaper men said: "It is astounding that any one should be so completely unethical. It is still more surprising that the friends of China should contend that they will not be given a fair deal. Not a day has passed since the conference opened without serious consideration having been given to some detail of China's affairs. Those who take a contrary view either are simply ignorant or they have not the interest of China at heart."

"Two kinds of pessimists are at work. They are those who impute ulterior motives to every concession made by Japan, and those who assert China has already gone to the dogs and all effort is futile. There are many optimists, but they are not so vociferous as the pessimists."

**Woman Wounded With Razor**  
Mrs. Maria Messina, forty-one years old, of 364 Oak Street, was taken to Volunteer Hospital late yesterday afternoon suffering from razor cuts said by the police to have been inflicted by Christina Longa, thirty-five, of 55 Oak Street. The latter was locked up, charged with felonious assault.

According to the police, the Messina and Longa families live in the New York City recently from Fulton, N. Y., where the two male heads of the families were in partnership in a farm. Recently Longa lost his interest in the farm and it is said Mrs. Longa blamed Mrs. Messina for difficulties that had arisen between the two men.

When Mrs. Longa met Mrs. Messina yesterday outside her home she tackled her with the razor, inflicting severe wounds on her head and face. The injured woman was said last night to be in a serious condition.

# Foreign Observers Fail to Get Much Thrill Out of Congress

Conference Correspondents Shocked When W. A. White in Gallery Sharpens Pencil, Letting Chips Fall Where They May

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—The eyes of all European correspondents were turned to-day upon Congress. It was the first opportunity for many of them to see that body in action, and so the attendance was large. The fact that the President was to deliver his message added interest to the occasion and lent high hopes to those who know only European politics. Keenly on the alert for some significant hint, ready to read a meaning into his words that did not exist and hoping to see some dramatic reference to the conference that would stir the world, they went in a body, and felt highly honored to be placed on the floor of the House.

They returned, however, no wiser, but somewhat sadder. The session merely served to mystify their conceptions of American politics. The one thing that apparently made the greatest impression upon them was the sight of William Allen White, of Kansas fame, sitting in the press gallery during the invocation, sharpening his pencil as he prepared for action. To a fellow correspondent who remarked to him that he was sharpening his pencil as he prepared for action, White said that he was sharpening his pencil as he prepared for action, and that he was sharpening his pencil as he prepared for action.

Every one in Congress was happy for an hour and basked in the light that had so long been turned on the conference performers. Our Congress is a jealous Congress and does not look with favor upon the intrusion of diplomatic gatherings in Washington. The traditional distrust of foreigners has been more than confirmed after the way in which they have endeavored to usurp that attention which belongs rightfully to all good Congressmen and Senators.

Rarely have the members of Congress had such an audience. All the ligues among the foreign delegations were there. Prince Tokugawa, short, comfortably round and cheerful, sat not far away from the British Ambassador, Sir Auckland Geddes, tall, lanky and somber looking. The diplomatic gallery was filled to overflowing. The press galleries were crowded. It was almost a question of "standing room only."

Down in the front row of the press gallery sat the great Josephus Daniels, carefully scribbling notes for his Raleigh paper. He looked lonely without Mr. Bryan, whose beneficent beam was missed by the attentive observers.

Mr. Hughes is sure to favor the movement just begun by some of the correspondents favoring a limitation of foolish questions. There are three types of askers of foolish questions. The first is composed of the persisters, the second of the repeaters and the third of the incoherents. The persisters have put questions which they ask day after day without mercy. The repeaters are those who ask in a new form a question already put by another correspondent. The incoherents are those whose minds are still in the mists that accompany the dawn of understanding. For the last three weeks the members of the press conference have opened every press conference with the question: "Is there anything to report on the naval ratio plan?" It seems never to occur to those who ask the President or the Secretary of State where one of the advisers of the conference lives or what the politics is of a well known Democratic serving on the advisory committee. It may be necessary, however, to form a new class, which will be headed by the man who started the conference in the State Department to-day by saying to Mr. Hughes: "There is a matter about which every one here expects yourself seems to know. Can you tell us anything about it?" And before he could even explain the Secretary interrupted him. "If it is a matter of which I know nothing," Mr. Hughes said, "why ask me about it?"

# "Dissenters" Demand Japan Quit Conference

TOKIO, Dec. 6 (By The Associated Press).—The "70 per centers," including Vice-Admiral Kozumi and Soyeji Matsumoto, met last night and passed resolutions declaring that the American proposals were inconsistent with Japan's national honor and devoid of the spirit of compromise, and demanding that Japan withdraw her delegation from the Washington conference. It is asserted that fifty dissenters attended the meeting.

# Shift of Warships Into Liners Left to Arms Delegation

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—The proposal to convert the American battle cruisers into fast passenger liners for service in the North Atlantic trade, as advanced yesterday by Joseph Powell, president of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, has been officially referred to the American delegation to the conference on the Limitation of Armament. The American big four has not yet given the proposal any consideration, nor will the suggestion be taken up until the major problem of reduction of armament—the 5-5-3 plan—has been definitely settled.

The intention of the delegation, however, to give the most painstaking study to any plan by which the great sums of money already spent on naval fighting vessels may be saved to the country and at the same time the fundamental principle of destroying weapons of war carried out. One high spokesman to-day declared that any plan that involved putting war vessels out of business as fighting ships would be given consideration.

That the plan for converting the cruisers into liners has been given careful consideration in shipping and naval circles was made plain to-day when it became known that Commissioner W. S. Benson, former chief of naval operations, was among the Shipbuilding Board officials who first were attracted to the possibilities of the cruiser for commercial purposes. It also became known that Rear Admiral David S. Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Construction of the Navy, to-day declined to comment on the proposal except to say that it provided a novel means of utilizing the naval fleet which would be designated for "scrapping." Asked if there would be any obstacle in the way of turning the battle cruisers over to the Shipping Board for completion as passenger liners, Secretary Denby pointed out that the President had wide executive powers with reference to the disposition of naval vessels. The transfer could be made by the issuance of an executive order, subject to Congressional approval, law officers of the Navy Department said.

The suggestion was made to-day in naval circles that the converted cruisers could be utilized in the Pacific trade as well as in the Atlantic, although it would be necessary to reduce their cruising speed materially in the west coast service.

# Quadruple Entente Idea Wins Approval in Japan

TOKIO, Dec. 6 (By The Associated Press).—Except for the pessimistic note from a small group which for a fortnight has been depressing the developments of the Washington conference, the sentiment here, as far as can be observed, seems extremely favorable to the idea of the talked-of quadruple entente. The newspapers generally appear to have talked themselves out on the ratio arguments and to have grasped the quadruple entente idea as a solution for Japan's defense problem.

# League Absurd as Compared To Conference, Says Lauzanne

He Calls Harding Plan Clear, Simple and Concise, and Asserts France Goes to Geneva Only in Complying With Treaty

By Stephane Lauzanne  
Editor in Chief of "Le Matin"  
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WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—What has been proposed by President Harding? He has proposed, if we have understood the matter correctly, the substitution of conferences of nations, instead of a league of nations. A league inevitably means a crowd. Any one enters by paying or not paying a fee and any subject is discussed. Decisions are taken in any way and applied at any time. A conference, on the contrary, presupposes people qualified to discuss a determined subject and having authority to carry out the decisions reached in common.

Let us suppose the limitation of naval armaments and the Far Eastern questions to have been discussed at Geneva. One of the absurd consequences of this would have been to see Switzerland and Czechoslovakia, who have no fleets, with a vote equal to that of America and England, and to see Sweden, Hungary and Bolivia giving advice on the method of settling the Shantung problem—a place where they have never set foot. At Washington, on the contrary, only those powers participated in the naval debate who had fleets, and only those took part in the Far Eastern questions who had a direct and tangible interest therein. At Washington, only those responsible nations convened who will have to apply the measures subscribed to by their representatives.

**"Clear, Simple, Logical"**  
Of course, France favors and always will favor the Washington system. It is clear, simple and logical. The Geneva system is complicated, obscure and odd.

The situation of France at Geneva is as paradoxical as well as it is simple. France went there without enthusiasm, simply because an American President had invited her to go. She stays there without much confidence, simply because it is bound to do so by treaty. Her representatives occupy a brilliant place there, perhaps the foremost place, and win victories due to oratory and influence, but French public opinion does not attach very much importance to such victories. French public opinion is not hostile; neither is it favorable. It is skeptical—which, for public opinion, is always the worst possible state of mind.

At Washington, on the contrary, all

though it is not her vital interests that are being discussed, France is wholly present, body and soul. Every fiber of her is keenly, thrillingly alive. She hopes for the success of this one, for the failure of that one. Above all, she hopes for the success of the conference, so that it may be followed by others. For France believes in the Washington system. She has pinned her faith and hopes to it.

There remains the question of Germany. A newspaperman already put that question to President Harding, and did it badly, for it does sometimes happen that newspapermen ask their questions in the wrong way. He inquired whether Germany would participate in the conference system, without specifying whether now or in the future. For France, the reply is simple. If the present conference is to mean the answer is: No. Germany has nothing to do with the present debate. There is all the less reason to ask her, because when the guests took their places at the table, the list had already been made up and communicated to all. It is not customary to start dinner all over again for a person whose presence has not been mentioned to the other guests.

If the question refers to future conferences the reply is very different. If, for instance, next spring there is to be an international and naval conference in London or Paris or Washington, it would be difficult not to ask Germany, who will be one of those chiefly interested. Again, if two or three years from now a conference is called to try to put Russia on her feet again, it will be necessary to summon Germany as well as Poland, Rumania, Latvia and all other neighbors or creditors of Russia.


That is how France understands the presence of Germany at future conferences. In any case, the plan of President Harding bears the mark: it is generous and it remains practical. It consists in order to scatter any cloud that threatens world peace, in convening in time the nations on which the cloud might burst and examining the best way of getting under cover before the next storm. The Wilsonian project consisted in making fine weather reign eternally. There is no fine weather eternally. Rain has been since the beginning of time, and will only end with the world. The main thing when it rains is to try not to get wet.

# John R. Drexel Jr. Injured Leg Fractured When Motorcycle and Trolley Collide

John R. Drexel Jr. has been a patient in the Memorial Hospital, at Princess Bay, S. I., for the last ten days, it is known yesterday. He is suffering from a compound fracture of the right leg received while riding on his motorcycle in the Princess Bay section of Staten Island. Mr. Drexel, who is an ardent cyclist, was in collision with a trolley car. He was thrown from his machine and rendered unconscious. It will be several weeks before he will be able to leave the hospital.

When in the city Mr. and Mrs. Drexel make their home at the Hotel La Salle, in East Sixtieth Street.

THE STORY OF REVILLON FURS



An Eskimo Patriarch

A pure white haired Eskimo is seldom seen. The subject of this picture is probably about 90. The ages of Eskimos are not recorded but they can be estimated by white men familiar with the history of the North. Like old people everywhere, Eskimos tell long stories of the events of the past and among them are tales of shipwrecks, famines, epidemics and the like of which the dates are well established. By comparing the Eskimo's recollections with these dates his age can be approximated fairly well.

No. 93—Life in the North

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